

a second loop containing section joined to the first loop containing section at a first junction point; and

a third loop containing section joined to the first loop containing section at a second junction point and joined to the second loop containing section at a third junction point such that a plurality of first loop containing sections are joined together through the second and third loop containing sections without connection directly between the first loop containing sections.

(Amended) 9. A stent according to claims 1 or 5, wherein the second and first junction points are circumferentially aligned.

(Amended) 21. A stent for widening a vessel in the human body comprising:

a plurality of first meander patterns;

a plurality of second meander patterns intertwined with the first meander patterns to form triangular cells such that the first meander patterns are joined together through the second meander patterns without connection directly between the first meander patterns.

(Amended) 32. A stent according to claim 24, wherein the second and third loop containing sections each have two loops.

(Amended) 67. An expandable stent comprising a plurality of enclosed flexible spaces, each of the plurality of enclosed flexible spaces forming a plurality of triangular cells, each triangular cell including:

- a) a first member having a first end and a second end;
- b) a second member having a first end and a second end;
- c) a third member having a first end and a second end;
- d) a fourth member having a first end and a second end; the first end of the first member communicating with the first end of the second member, the second end of the second member communicating with the second end of the third member, and the first end of the third member communicating with the first end of the fourth member;
- e) the first member and the second member with the curved portion at their ends forming a first loop;
- f) the third member and the fourth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a second loop;
- g) a fifth member having a first end and a second end;
- h) a sixth member having a first end and a second end;
- i) a seventh member having a first end and a second end;
- j) an eighth member having a first end and a second end;
- k) a ninth member having a first end and a second end; and
- l) a tenth member having a first end and a second end, the first end of the fifth member coupled to the second end of the first member, the second end of the fifth member communicating with the second end of the sixth member, the first end of the sixth member communicating with the first end of the seventh member, the second end of the seventh member communicating with the second end of the eighth member, the first end of the eighth member communicating with the first end of the ninth member, the second end of the ninth member

communicating with the second end of the tenth member, and the first end of the of the tenth member coupled to the second end of the fourth member;

m) the fifth member and the sixth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a third loop;

n) the seventh member and the eighth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a fourth loop; and

o) the ninth member and the tenth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a fifth loop, such that the first and the fourth members are joined together through the fifth, the sixth, the seventh, the eighth, the ninth and the tenth members without connection directly between first and fourth members.

(Amended) 95. A stent for holding open a blood vessel formed of a plurality of triangular cells, each triangular cell comprising:

a first loop containing section, the first loop containing section arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the loops in said first loop containing section occurring at a first frequency;

a second loop containing section, the second loop containing section arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the loops in said second loop containing section occurring at a second frequency; and

a third loop containing section, the loops in said third loop containing section also occurring at a second frequency that is higher than said first frequency, said third loop containing section joined to said first and second loop containing sections such that a plurality of first loop

containing sections are joined together through the second and third loop containing sections without connection directly between the first loop containing sections.

(Amended) 96. A stent according to claim 95, wherein the first loop containing section is relatively adapted to enable radial support and the second and third loop containing sections are relatively adapted to enable longitudinal flexibility.

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(Amended) 97. A stent according to claim 95, wherein the first loop containing sections have wider struts than the second and third loop containing sections.

(Amended) 98. A stent according to claim 95, wherein the first loop containing section has two loops for every three loops combined of said second and third loop containing sections.

(Amended) 99. A stent according to claim 95, wherein the loops in the second and third loop containing sections provides improved flexibility.

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(Amended) 100. A stent according to claim 99, wherein, while flexing, loops in the second and third loop containing sections have lower maximal strain of the expanded stent within a blood vessel caused by a pulsing of blood.

(Amended) 101. A stent according to any of claim 95, wherein the first loop containing section is 180 degrees out of phase with the second and third loop containing sections.

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(Amended) 102. A stent according to any of claim 101, wherein the first loop containing section is joined to said second and third loop containing sections such as to form a plurality of cells, each of which include two loops of said first loop containing section and three loops of said second and third loop containing sections combined.

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(Amended) 108. A stent for widening a vessel in the human body formed of a plurality of triangular cells comprising:
a plurality of first circumferential bands containing a pattern of loops at a first frequency;
a plurality of second circumferential bands containing a pattern of loops at a second frequency higher than said first frequency, alternating with said first circumferential bands and periodically coupled thereto to form cells such that said first circumferential bands are joined together through said second circumferential bands without connection directly between said first circumferential bands.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 9, 21, 32, 67, 95-102, and 108 have been amended to more clearly recite the Applicants' invention. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification and drawings especially at page 15, lines 16-24; page 16, lines 10-24; page 21, lines 1-13; and Figures 5 and 6. No new matter has been added.